

MURRAY

DRAWER 22

Sculptors - M  
(Busts)

7/20/2023 10:09:30 AM



# Statues of Abraham Lincoln

H. Muller

Excerpts from newspapers and other  
sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



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<http://archive.org/details/statuxmlinc>



*Its name indicates its character*

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# THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

INSTITUTIONAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT

August 20, 1934

ORRA F. KNIGHT  
DIRECTOR

930 UNION TRUST BUILDING  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Mr. W. T. Plogsterth  
Director of Publicity and Field Service  
The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. Plogsterth:

Inclosed find letter which tells of a bust of Abraham Lincoln in bronze, in which the company may or may not be interested. According to the description, the price seems low.

I will be glad to attempt to get additional details if you are interested.

Cordially,

OKK:bp  
Enc.

*Orra F. Knight*



August 24, 1934

Mr. O. F. Knight  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

My dear Mr. Knight:

Today we have written to Heeren Brothers Company about the bust of Lincoln which they have for sale and have asked them to give us further description and, if possible, a picture of it as I think possibly we might be interested in its acquisition.

We thank you very much for keeping us in touch with Lincoln items which are available as we are always on the outlook for something worth while.

Thanking you again for your interest, I am  
Respectfully yours,

Director

LAW:AAM



Formerly:  
HEEREN BROS. CO.  
JEWELERS  
PENN AVENUE & EIGHTH STREET

PITTSBURGH, PA..

August 11, 1934

Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.,  
Union Trust Bldg.,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Gentlemen:

After seventy-five years of business the stock of Heeren Brothers Company is being closed out at greatly reduced prices. Among our stock is a bust of Abraham Lincoln in real bronze which we thought, being symbolic of the name of your Company, would be of interest to you.

The former price on this imported real bronze bust was Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) now Sixty Dollars (\$60.00).

The dimensions are about eighteen inch base and twenty-four inches high.

We also have a green marble pedestal that would accomodate this bust. It is about thirty-four inches high and nineteen inch base. The former price on the pedestal was Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) now Eighteen Dollars (\$18.00).

We would appreciate a visit from any of your organization as there are vast items of savings during this bankrupt sale.

Very sincerely yours,

HEEREN BROTHERS COMPANY

BANKRUPT STOCK



August 24, 1934

Heeren Brothers Company  
Penn Avenue & Eighth St.  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Gentlemen:

Our representative at Pittsburgh has forwarded your letter to the Home Office of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, which in turn has been submitted to the Research Department of the Company.

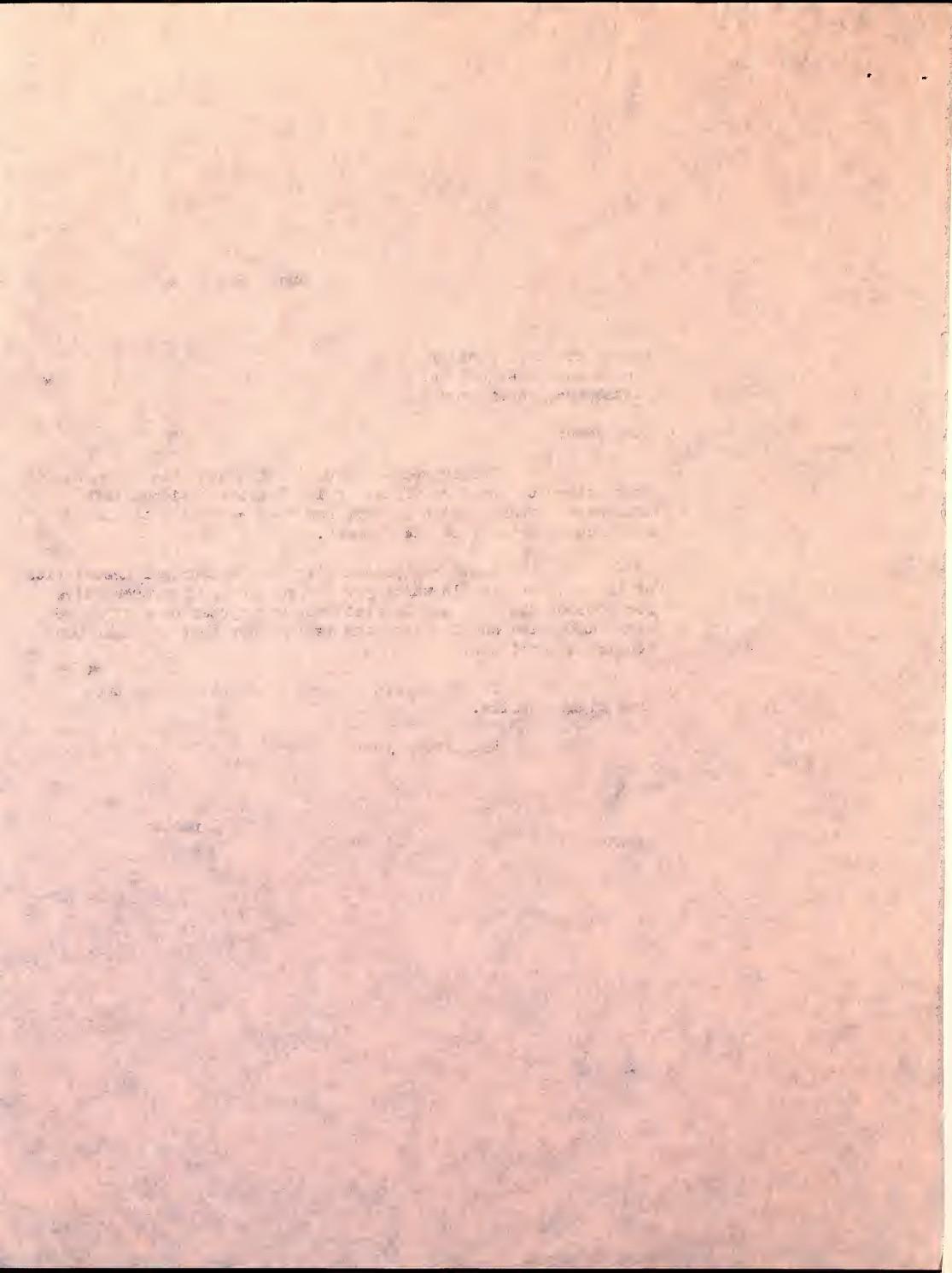
Would you please give us some further description of the bust of Lincoln which you offered to our representative for \$60.00; that is, any imprint that may appear upon it so we might determine who the sculptor is in order that we might now acquire a duplicate.

If you happen to have a picture of the bust that might suffice.

Very truly yours,

Director

LAW:AAM



Formerly:  
HEEREN BROS. CO.  
• JEWELERS  
PENN AVENUE & EIGHTH STREET

PITTSBURGH, PA..

August 25, 1934

Lincoln National Life Foundation,  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Attention: Louis A. Warren, Director

Gentlemen:

The sculptor of our rare Lincoln bust is H. Muller. The bust is on a revolving post so that from any angle it is most striking. We do not have a picture of the bust but it is on display at our show room Penn Avenue and Eighth Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

We would suggest that owing to the rare value of this piece and as we have only one that you let us hear from you real soon as no doubt same will be picked up by someone very soon.

Yours very truly,

JEC:HN

*J. E. Cohen*

J. E. Cohen, Liquidator  
*per H.N.*

P.S. Kindly address all future communications to J. E. Cohen,  
Liquidator, c/o Heeren Brothers Company, 8th & Penn Ave.,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.





Agency  
of

# The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company

Home Office - FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

*Its name indicates its character*

S. MORRIS THOMPSON, GENERAL AGENT  
2530 KOPPERS BLDG.  
PHONE: ATLANTIC 1242-3

PITTSBURGH, PA.

August 30, 1934

Dr. Louis A. Warren  
Lincoln National Life Foundation  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

I have carefully examined the bronze bust of Lincoln at Heeren Brothers Company, Penn Avenue and 8th Street. This is a very old and reputable company which has gone into bankruptcy on account of the mortgage on their building. They always handled a good line of merchandise and had a high class trade.

Otto Heeren, founder of the company, who died about twelve years ago, was a great collector and during one of his trips to Europe he purchased this genuine bronze bust which they have marked at \$60.00. The former price was \$200.00. The Crafton High School of Pittsburgh about four years ago paid \$275.00 for a duplicate bust and pedestal. In normal times I am confident this bust would bring three or four times its present valuation.

If I could afford it personally, I would make this purchase.

Sincerely yours,

General Agent

SMT:BW



August 31, 1934

Mr. S. Morris Thompson  
Pittsburgh Office

My dear Mr. Thompson:

Thank you for your promptness in complying with our request with reference to viewing the Lincoln bronze bust and we are today sending a check for it, as we think it would make quite a fine piece for our museum.

Very sincerely yours,

Director  
Lincoln National Life Foundation

LAW:EB



August 31, 1934

Mr. J. E. Cohen, Liquidator  
c/o Heeren Brothers Co.  
Penn Avenue and Eighth St.  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

My dear Mr. Cohen:

One of our representatives recently visited your store and has advised us that we should secure the bronze bust of Lincoln by H. Muller, and you will please find enclosed a check for \$60.00 in payment for same. Please forward it to Fort Wayne at your convenience.

If there is any correspondence in the correspondence files of the company relative to this bust, we should be very glad to have that also, if it is available.

Kindly advise us if there are any other Lincoln items in the stock of Heeren Brothers in which you feel we would be interested.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB  
Enc. 1

Director  
Lincoln National Life Foundation

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MULLER, BOSS  
Formerly:  
HEEREN BROS. CO.  
JEWELERS  
PENN AVENUE & EIGHTH STREET

PITTSBURGH, PA..

September 4, 1934

Lincoln National Life Foundation,  
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Attn: Louis A. Warren

My Dear Mr. Warren:

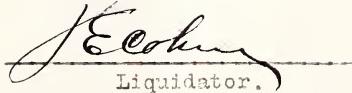
Responding to your letter of August 31st.,  
your check enclosure, receipt of which is, hereby, acknowledged  
and accept our thanks.

The statue you purchased of Abraham Lincoln I  
am sure will be very pleasing to you. The import duty on  
this statue today would equal the amount paid for the article  
and its a gorgeous piece of art. The records in connection  
with this statue are not in our possession and I do not know  
that there are any. Therefore, I am sorry I am not able to  
furnish any to you.

We have no further Lincoln statues. However, in  
this connection we have several beautiful pieces in bronze of  
Beethoven, Shakespeare and Napoleon and if you are interested  
I would be pleased to hear further from you.

Appreciating your past courtesy. I am,

Very sincerely yours,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Liquidator.

JMC:HN



Mrs. Ralph M. Hardgrove  
266 Rose Lane  
North Canton, Ohio

Oct. 10, 1955

Mr. Louis A. Warren  
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

Your name was given me at the Canton Public Library. They thought you might be able to help me on some information about a bronze Bust of Abraham Lincoln made by H. Miller, I would appreciate it greatly if you can help me on this subject.

Thank you sincerely,  
Ethel L Hardgrove



October 13, 1955

Mrs. Ralph M. Hardgrove  
266 Rose Lane  
North Canton, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Hardgrove:

We have in our Museum a bronze bust of Abraham Lincoln executed by H. Muller. We acquired it in August 1934 from Heeren Bros. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., the latter liquidating its stock. We are told that Otto Heeren, the founder of the company, purchased this on one of his trips to Europe. A description of it follows:

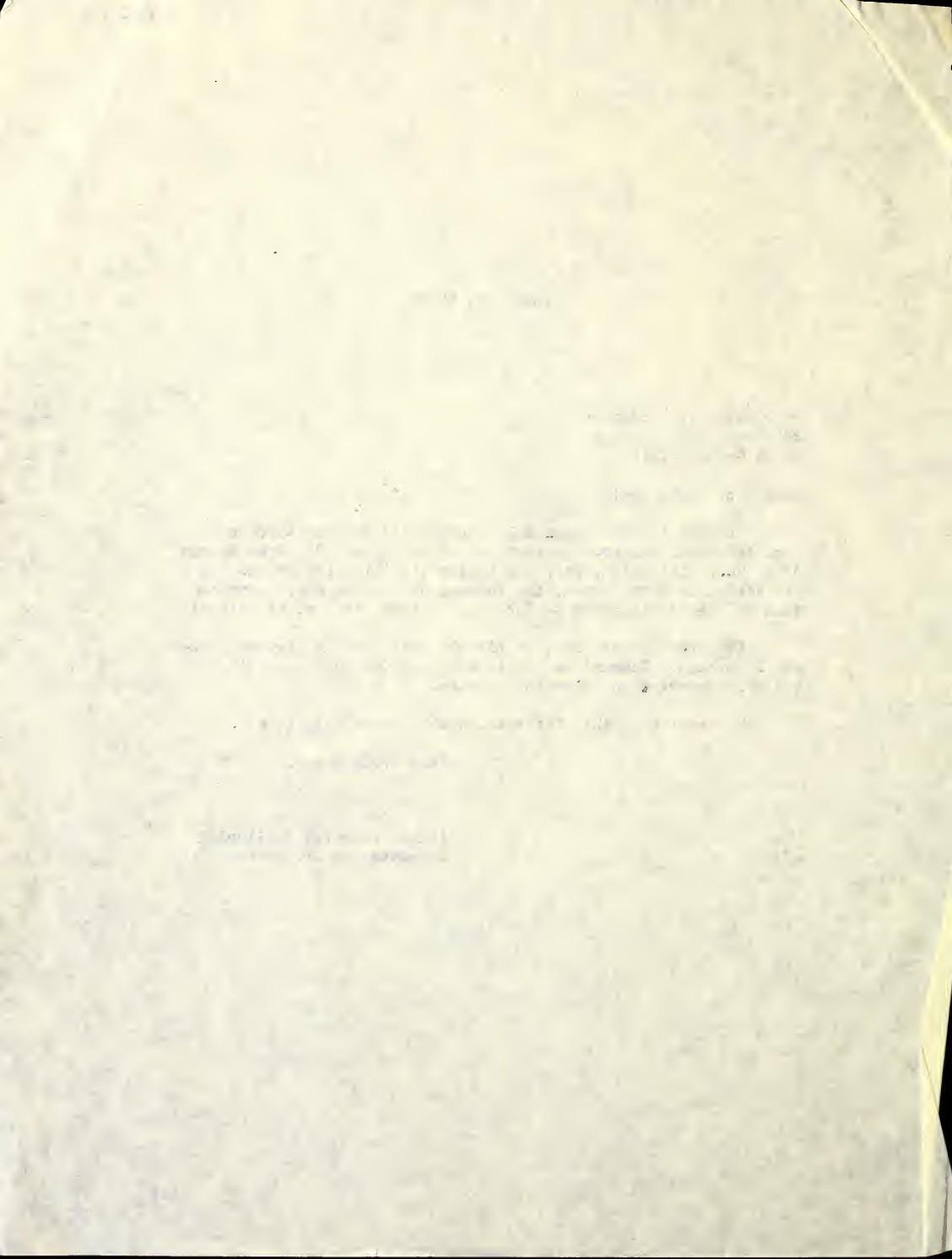
Clothed, bearded bust of Lincoln facing right, French likeness. Bronze. Dimensions: height 20", width 19", base 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 7 3/4". Inscription "Lincoln" on base.

We trust that this information will be of help to you.

Very truly yours,

m/m

(Miss) Margaret Moellering  
Secretary to Dr. Warren



ROBERT FRANK SKUTCH

*Antiquary*

11 WEST CHASE STREET

BALTIMORE 1, MARYLAND

Telephone  
LAfayette 3-2596

July 10, 1956

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director  
The Lincoln National Life Foundation  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

My Dear Mr. Warren:

This is to thank you for your very kind letter about the MULLER Lincoln. Your intimation that the bust was sculptured in Paris bears some scintilla of fact. I have compiled a dictionary of American Artists to which I have devoted over 15 years of research. I have never encountered this name. There is however, no reference to this man in either Thieme-Becker, nor in Benetit. I have sold the bronze but if I do discover any data on the sculptor I will surely advise you.

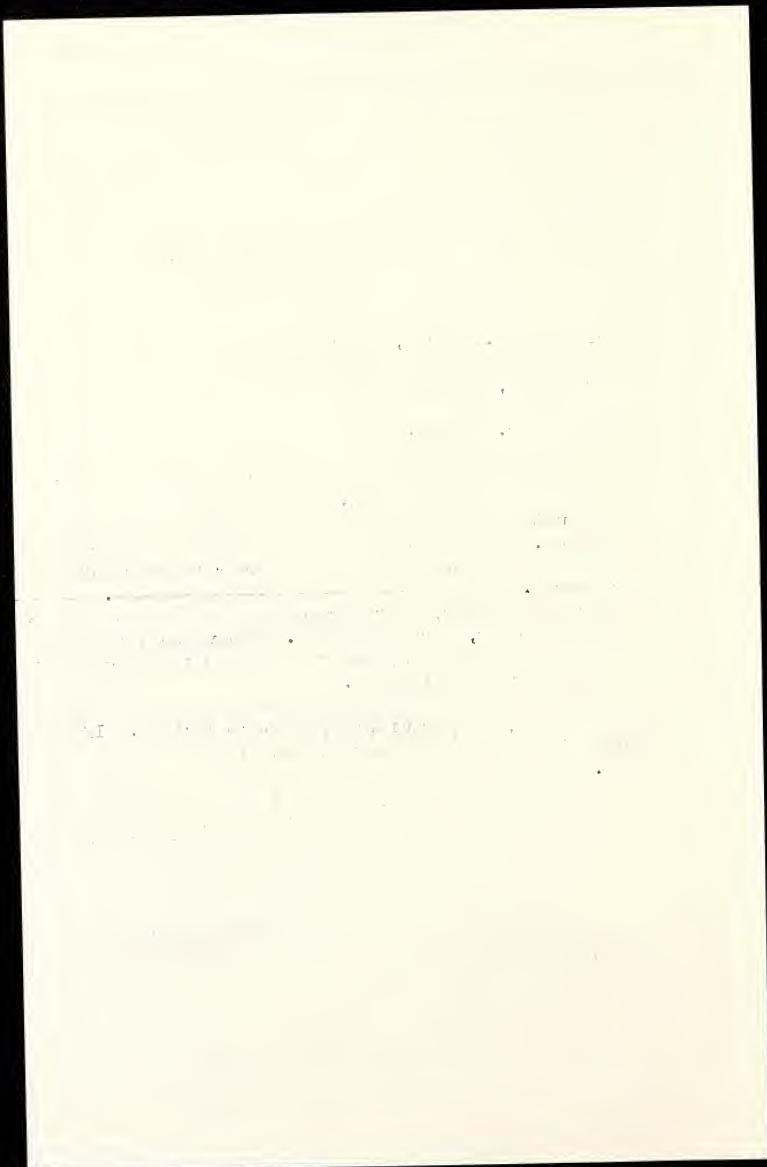
Again, my appreciation of your courtesy. If at any time I can be of service to you please command me.

Yours truly,



ROBERT FRANK SKUTCH

RFS/bld



ROBERT FRANK SKUTCH

*Antiquary*

11 West Chase Street  
Baltimore 1, Maryland

Telephone  
LAfayette 3-2596

February 11, 1959

Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry  
c/o The Lincoln National Foundation  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. McMurtry:

Mr. R. Hugh Gifford, informed me that you may be interested in the Lincoln bust, about which I wrote to him sometime ago.

I am enclosing a photograph of the bust. The details I have noted on the back of the photograph.

As to the artist, H. Muller, he was a German Sculptor, who did some work in this country in the year 1870. He afterward returned to Germany. This copy is a signed proof. The patine is soft, and pleasing. The price is \$350.00.

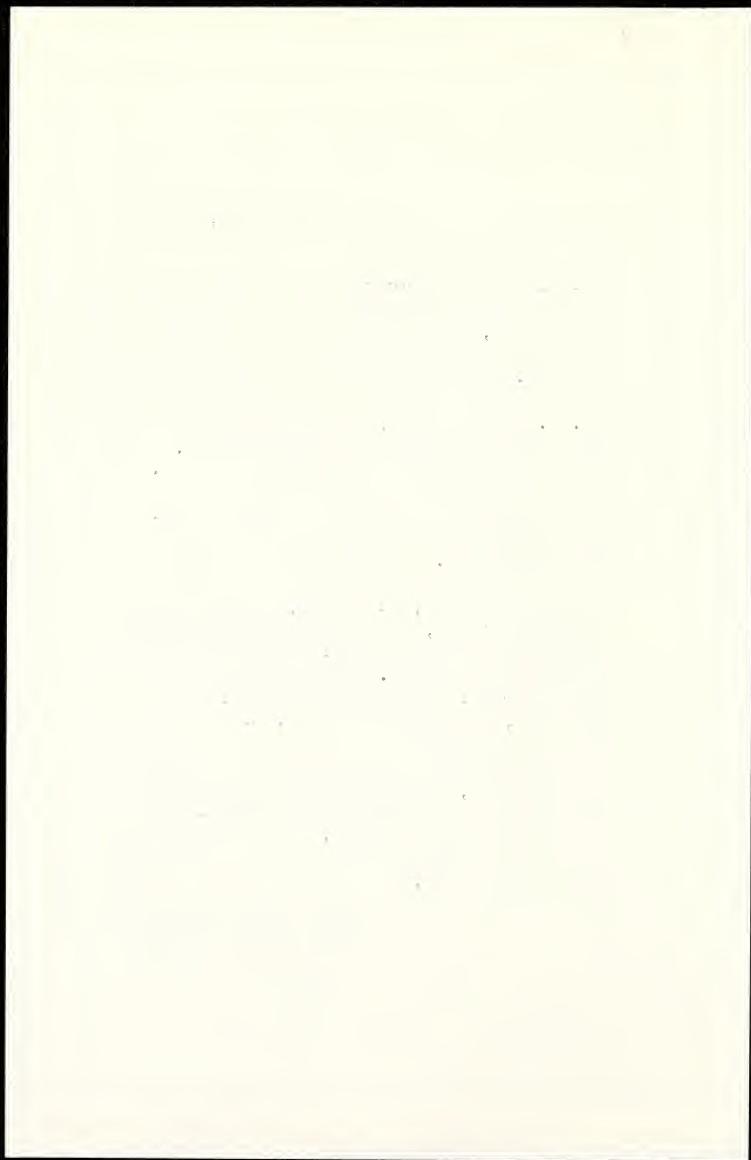
If this information justifies your continued interest, I will be very glad to ship it to you for your examination. I appreciate your interest.

With best wishes.

*Robert Frank Skutch*

RFS/sd

ROBERT FRANK SKUTCH



October 8, 1964

Mr. Irving J. Abramowitz  
17 Light Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Mr. Abramowitz:

I have checked our H. Muller bronze bust of Lincoln. It is 25 1/2 inches high including the base. We acquired our bust in 1934. It was purchased for \$60. Then there was a record sale of \$275 for the bust which was purchased in 1930 by the Crafton High School of Pittsburgh.

H. Muller was a German sculptor who did some of his work in this country in the year 1870.

This bust was offered to us in 1959 for \$350 by Robert Frank Skutch, 11 West Chase Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

I believe today the bust would sell for \$450 to \$500, if offered by prominent dealers at a New York auction house.

I hope my information will be of some help to you.

Yours sincerely,

R. Gerald McMurtry

RGM/hs

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MULLER -

DRAWE 22

Sculptors - M  
(Busts)

